

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A stent-delivery catheter includes a balloon having an intermediate body, tapered end portions and at least one circumferential groove adjacent a transition between the intermediate body and a tapered end portion. While the balloon is deflated, the groove allows the tapered end portion of the balloon to function as a dam to retain a stent on the balloon. This abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract which will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims. 37 CFR 1.72(b)